AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins
Issue: ANS-137
Date: 1992-05-16
Sources: amsat-ans-1992-ans-130.01.txt

SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-137.01
AMSAT-NA MOVES TO CIS/INTERNET

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 137.01 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MAY 16, 1992 BID:$ANS-137.01
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

All AMSAT-NA Electronic Mail To Move Through CompuServe & INTERNET

Next week a new milestone in AMSAT's use of electronic mail will be reached when, beginning May 31, all of its internal business communications will be conducted using CompuServe Information Service (CIS) and INTERNET. For the past seven years, most of the communications between the AMSAT Board-of-Directors (BOD), Ground Command Stations, AMSAT-NA Officers, and between various AMSAT groups around the world were accomplished using "Sprint Mail" or as it was also sometimes referred to, "TeleMail." But because of the enormous expense of "Sprint Mail," the AMSAT-NA BOD decided it was time to switch to a less costly approach to communications. By migrating to CompuServe and INTERNET, the BOD estimates that AMSAT-NA will save about $25,000 per year. The immediate benefit of this change to CompuServe and INTERNET is that the AMSAT membership now have a much more open access to the BOD, Officers, Area Coordinators, and many of the hams who play a vital role in keeping OSCAR satellites working. Most of these individuals can be contacted through CompuServe or an INTERNET connection. For example, if you would like to send an electronic mail message to AMSAT-NA President Bill Tynan (W3XO), he can be reached at his CompuServe address of 70323,2750. Or, if you have access to an INTERNET "node," you can send Bill a message to his INTERNET address of w3xo@amsat.org. Either way you send your message, Bill will get your "mail." If you would like to have a complete list of all individuals in the AMSAT organization which are on CompuServe or INTERNET, you can send Tom Clark (W3IWI) a request for this list via either CompuServe or INTERNET to w3iwi@amsat.org. By doing so he will send you the AMSAT-NA "address book." Included in this list are "special interest" groups that deal with, for example, the PHASE-3D design, AMSAT Area Coordinators, and those who publish the keplerian elements and the AMSAT News Service (ANS) bulletins.

For those who are on CompuServe and have never sent a message to a anyone on INTERNET, it is quite easy. When you compose your "mail" message on CompuServe and it "prompts" you for the address, in the case of Tom Clark (W3IWI) for example, you would type his INTERNET address as follows:

>INTERNET:w3iwi@amsat.org (NOTE the UPPER & lower case)

and on if you are on INTERNET and you want to send Tom a message, you address it to him by typing: w3iwi@amsat.org.

The AMSAT BOD hopes that this use of CompuServe and INTERNET will provide a vehicle for a more open exchange of ideas and make information more accessable to all OSCAR satellite enthusiasts.

/EX
SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-137.02
W3GEY HAS RESIGNED AS VP ENG

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 137.02 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MAY 16, 1992 BID:$ANS-137.02
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AMSAT-NA VP For Engineering, Jan KIng (W3GEY), Resigns Position

AMSAT-NA regrets to announce the resignation of Jan A. King (W3GEY) as Vice President for Engineering. Jan's resignation came rather suddenly earlier this week, citing principally work related pressures and commitments, as well as family responsibilities. Jan emphasized that he remains a loyal AMSAT member and, in fact, intends to spend, whatever amateur radio time he has, in becoming active on AO-10/13. Jan further indicated that he may serve out his remaining time on the Board of Directors, although he said that he will not have the time to be as active in Board affairs as he has been.

As many old timers in the organization know, Jan King was one of the founders of The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation in 1969 and has held the post of VP Engineering since it was created. As such, he was instrumental in guiding the organization's technical activities from Australis OSCAR 5 through the MICROSATS as well as the early planning stages of Phase 3D.

AMSAT-NA President Bill Tynan (W3XO) expressed disappointment at W3GEY's announcement but said that he understood the circumstances. He stressed, however, that the loss of Jan's talents must not, and will not, inhibit AMSAT-NA from meeting its commitments to the worldwide Phase 3D project. He indicated that he is presently reviewing a list of potential candidates for the post of VP Engineering. In the meantime, Bob McGwier (N4HY), who had previously said that he would be unable to go to Marburg for the Phase 3D Experimenters Meeting later this month because of work conflicts, has now indicated that he will be able to attend. As a result, Bob will be among those representing AMSAT-NA at this vital meeting. Others going include Dick Daniels (W4PUJ) Phase 3D Project Manager for AMSAT-NA's role in Phase 3D and Dick Jansson (WD4FAB) who has been very active in both structural design of the spacecraft as well as some preliminary antenna work. Both N4HY and WD4FAB currently hold the title of Assistant Vice President for Engineering.

W3XO expressed the hope that AMSAT will be able to call on Jan King for technical or other assistance in the years to come and wishes him well in both his amateur and professional pursuits.

/EX
SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-137.03
ZRO TEST SCHEDULE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 137.03 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MAY 16, 1992 BID:$ANS-137.03
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AO-13 ZRO Test Schedule: May 1992

The ZRO Memorial Technical Achievement Award Program, or just "ZRO Test" has a new schedule for May, 1992, via AO-13. This activity is a test of operating skill and equipment performance.

During a typical ZRO run, a control station will send numeric code groups using CW at 10 words-per-minute. At the beginning of the run, uplink power from the control station is set to match the general beacon downlink strength. This is level "zero." The control operator will send and repeat a random five-digit number, then lower the uplink power by 3 dB (half power) and repeat the procedure with a new random number. This will continue to a level 27 dB below the beacon (level "nine").

A participating listener monitors the downlink signals until they can no longer copy the numbers. Those who can hear the beacon will qualify for

the basic award by copying the code group heard at level "zero". The challenge is to improve home-station performance to a point where the lower-level downlink signals can be copied (levels 6 through 9).

The following schedule of Mode "B" and "JL" ZRO tests were chosen for convenient operating times and favorable squint angles. The "B" tests can be heard on 145.840 MHz and the "JL" test on 435.945 MHz. Ed (N5EM) will run the "JL" tests while Andy (WA5ZIB) will continue with "B" runs.

Saturday May 23, 1992 at 0500 UTC "JL"
Sunday May 24, 1992 at 0400 UTC "B"
Saturday May 30, 1992 at 1745 UTC "B"
Saturday May 30, 1992 at 2000 UTC "JL"

Note that the dates and days are shown in "UTC", thus the test on May 16th occurs on Friday night for those in North America. The same situation is true for the tests on May 23rd and May 24th. Any changes will be announced as soon as possible via the AMSAT HF and AO-13 Operations Nets.

Recently updated ZRO brochures are available from WA5ZIB, Andy MacAllister, AMSAT V.P. User Operations, 14714 Knightsway Drive, Houston, TX 77083 for an S.A.S.E. with two units of postage. The brochure characterizes test procedures, means for obtaining certificates and gives some historical background about the program. A few certificate requests from the previous round of ZRO tests are still pending but should be shipped by May 9th.

All listener reports with date of test and numbers copied should be sent to WA5ZIB at the address above. A report will be returned verifying the level of accurate reception.

/EX
SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-137.04
AO-13 OPS NET SCHEDULE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 137.04 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MAY 16, 1992 BID:$ANS-137.04
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AMSAT-NA Operations Net Schedule

AMSAT Operations Nets are planned for the following times. Mode B Nets are conducted on AO-13 on a downlink frequency of 145.950 MHz and Mode J/L Nets on a downlink of 435.970 MHz.

Date	UTC	Mode	Phs	NCS	Alt
30-May-92	1845	J	104	VE2LVC	WJ9F
7-Jun-92	0030	B	154	WB6LLO	W9ODI

Guest commentators are planned. Join the Net if you have questions. In the unlikely event that either the Net Control Station (NCS) or the alternate do not call up frequency, any participant is invited to act as NCS.

****

Slow Scan Television on AO-13

Mode B downlink of 145.925 MHz at MA 135 on UTC Sundays. Also try Mode J downlink of 435.980 MHz at MA 135 on UTC Saturdays.

/EX
SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-137.05
SPRING AO-13 TRANSPONDER SCHED

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 137.05 FROM AMSAT HQ

SILVER SPRING, MD MAY 9, 1992 BID:$ANS-137.05
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AO-13 Spring Schedule Announced

The spring schedule for AO-13 is as follows:

N QST de DB2OS 16Mar92 00:45utc ** AO-13 Transponder Schedule **
schedule Mar 16 - Jun 08
Mode-B : MA 000 to MA 100 ! Mode-JL ON Mon, Wed !
Mode-JL : MA 100 to MA 120 ! Fri and Sat UTC only. ! Alon/Alat
Mode-LS : MA 120 to MA 135 ! S Beacon on "L" days ! 178/-6
Mode-JL : MA 135 to MA 150 ! S Transp on "B" days +-----------
Mode-B : MA 150 to MA 256 ! See AMSAT-Journals and Packet
Omnis : MA 240 to MA 030 ! Radio Bulletins for full details.

AO-10 is currently available for Mode B operation when it is view of your QTH. PLEASE DO NOT attempt to use AO-10 if you hear the beacon or the transponder signals FMing.

/EX
SB SPACE@AMSAT < G3RUH $A920508
AO-13 Operations Jun-Dec
SB AMSAT @ WWW < G3RUH $A920508

Calendar of events for Oscar-13 to the end of 1992

Date	Event	Modes	Sun Angle	Suns Position SEL/SAZ
1992 Jun 08 [Mon]	Move to 210/0	B JL S	5	-24/126
1992 Jun 29 [Mon]	L OFF	B -- -	4	-33/149
1992 Jul 20 [Mon]	Move to 150/0*	B -- -	3 to 44	-34/176
1992 Aug 17 [Mon]	L ON	B JL S	28	-26/208
1992 Sep 21 [Mon]	Move to 180/0	B JL S	-1 to 29	-2/241
1992 Nov 23 [Mon]	Move to 210/0	B JL S	-29 to -4	33/305
1992 Dec 14 [Mon]	L OFF	B -- -	-27	33/333
1992 Dec 28 [Mon]	t.b.a.		43	29/351

Notes:
1. * via Alon/Alat 180/15; expect poor performance for a few days.
2. Illumination = 100*Cos(Sun_Angle) % and needs to be better than 70%, i.e. Sun angle within +/- 45 deg.

3. SEL/SAZ is Sun's position in orbit plane (like ALAT/ALON). Move on Jul 20 to 150/0 is because Sun is at SAZ=176 i.e. apogee direction so the antennas cannot point there as the solar panels would not be illuminated. The Sun then gradually moves to SAZ around 208 so we cannot use attitude 210/0 as has been customary.

AO-13 Transponder Schedule Jun 10 - Jul 20

Mode-B : MA 000 to MA 165 ! Mode-JL on Mon, Wed
Mode-JL : MA 165 to MA 200 ! Fri and Sat UTC.
Mode-LS : MA 200 to MA 215 ! S Beacon on "L" days
Mode-B : MA 215 to MA 256 ! S Transp on "B" days
Omnis : MA 250 to MA 060 ! ALON/ALAT 210/0

Mode L OFF after Jun 29 until Aug 17. Next attitude change Jul 20, to 150/0 until Sep 21.

Note that modes will only change at the above MAs. So if Mode-L has hung over through midnight utc into a non-L day, it will switch off

at any subsequent scheduled MA change point.

Similarly if midnight UTC begins a Mode-L day, the L transponder will
switch on at any subsequent scheduled MA change point, if appropriate.

INFORMATION

Don't rely on gossip and rumour! Up to date information about AO-13
operations is always available on the beacons, 145.812 MHz or 435.658 MHz
in CW, RTTY and 400 bps PSK. The active command stations are listed
below, and constructive feedback about operations is always welcome.
 Peter   DB2OS @ DK0MAV   or at
 James   G3RUH @ GB7DDX UOSAT-22
 Graham VK5AGR @ VK5WI   BBS

This bulletin prepared by G3RUH 1992 May 08 - Cambridge, England

/EX
SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-137.06
AO-16 EXPERIMENTER'S DAY

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 137.08 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MAY 16, 1992   BID:$ANS-137.06
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AO-16 Experimenter's Day Schedule

The AO-16 Command Team has announced the following PACSAT Experimenter's
Day schedule for April and May:

DATE   START TIME   END TIME   MODE

20 May   0310 UTC - 20 May   0245 UTC - 21 May RCO
27 May   0625 UTC - 27 May   0600 UTC - 28 May RCO

RCO: Raised Cosine Only, No S-Band.

QRP operations are encouraged on Experimenter's Day. Uplink power should
be limited to 20 watts EIRP. If you are using your AO-10/13 beams, this
means you must crank your power back to about as low as it will probably
go, no more than 2 watts. And don't forget to turn off your amplifier!

While Experimenter's Day operations are scheduled to be conducted weekly,
users are reminded that these operations may be shortened or canceled to
allow uploading of improved spacecraft software. Watch for bulletins on
the AO-16 BBS and/or the telemetry text frame for changes to the schedule.

[ANS thanks Bruce Rahn (WB9ANQ) for this bulletin item.]

/EX
SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-137.07
FO-20 TRANSPONDER SCHEDULE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 137.07 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MAY 16, 1992   BID:$ANS-137.07
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

FO-20 Mode JA Transponder Schedule

The following is the latest status and operation schedule for FO-20:
Mode JA Operation Schedule

20-May-92 03:30 UTC -to- 21-May-92 02:00 UTC

27-May-92 02:00 UTC -to- 28-May-92 02:20 UTC

Mode JD Operation Schedule unless otherwise noted above.

[The AMSAT News Service would like to thank JJ1WTK and SpaceNews Editor KD2BD.]

/EX

--
Gary W. Sanders gws@n8emr.columbus.oh.us, 72277,1325
N8EMR @ N8JYV (ip addr) 44.70.0.1 [Ohio AMPR address coordinator]
HAM BBS 614-895-2553 (1200/2400/V.32/PEP) Voice: 614-895-2552 (eves/weekends)